



## The forbidden "box of colors" or the pictorial temptation of Romain Gary

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Abstract: Romain Gary, a lover of painting and a collector, experienced a crisis of pictorial creation in the early 1950s, a bitter failure that revived the pain of a childhood renunciation. From *Les Couleurs du jour*, the pictorial imagination permeates his novels, leading him in *Pour Sganarelle* to take the opposite side of the Nouveau Roman, defending figuration against abstraction, at the risk of a caricatured vision of abstract painting as a cultural, inhuman and cynical counter-model.

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